

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated December 11, 2009. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is requested. In this Final Office Action, claims 1-25 and 34-36 are considered and rejected over the prior art. By way of reply, Applications are cancelling claim 8, amending claims 1 and 7, and adding new claims 37-40. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Specifically, these amendments are supported by at least Figure 7 and paragraphs [0029] (digital information obtained from a source is provided to rendering unit 303 for processing), [0055] (If three-dimensional processing is used to provide image 500, items may be removed, added or modified), [0036] (a detected tag may be used to find an associated command in action table 704), [0037] (a found command ("tagged command") in action table 704) of the application, as originally filed. Support for the first sequence of rendered frames is provided by at least Figures 10A and 11A and paragraphs [0055] and [0056] of the application, as originally filed. Support for the second sequence of rendered frames is provided by at least Figures 10B and 11B and paragraphs [0055] and [0056] of the application, as originally filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all claims in view of the following remarks.

Rejections under §103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-11, 20-25, and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumann (U.S. 7,218,754) in view of Fukushima (U.S. 6,388,638). The Examiner rejects claims 12-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumann in view of Fukushima and Ryan (U.S. 6,374,036). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As amended, each of claims 1 and 7 recites the limitations of (i) altering source digital image content within a rendering unit in response to tags in a data stream that provide tagged commands to the rendering unit to remove, add, or modify an item in the source digital image content using three-dimensional processing to produce a second sequence of rendered frames that is different than a first sequence of rendered frames and (ii) utilizing the tag to access an action table and find the tagged commands. Neither of the cited references teaches or suggests these limitations.

Schumann teaches a technique for inserting disruptive content to into input content to impede the ability of optical recording devices to make useful copies of output content (see Schumann at Abstract). A system is disclosed that includes a disrupter to disrupt the input content using disruption data (see Schumann at Figure 2). Another system is disclosed that includes a disrupter to control a shutter and projector (see Schumann at Figure 5). Schumann fails to teach or suggest that three-dimensional processing is provided by any of the disclosed systems. Therefore, Schumann fails to teach or suggest the limitations that that three-dimensional processing is used to remove, add, or modify an item in the source digital image content to produce a second sequence of rendered frames, as now expressly recited in amended claims 1 and 7.

Additionally, Schumann fails to teach or suggest utilizing the tag to access an action table and find the tagged commands, as is now also explicitly recited in amended claims 1 and 7. Instead, Schumann describes disruption data and pattern data that is inserted to the input data (see Schumann at col. 15, lines 4-16).

The Examiner relies on Fukushima only for teaching that alterations of the digital content are not visually perceptible for real-time display. Upon reviewing Fukushima, it is clear that this reference fails to teach or suggest the limitations of using three-dimensional processing is used to remove, add, or modify an item in the source digital image content, as recited in amended claims 1 and 7. Likewise, it is clear that Fukushima also fails to teach or suggest utilizing the tag to access an action table and find the tagged commands to the rendering unit. Thus, Fukushima fails to cure the deficiencies of Schumann set forth above.

The Examiner relies on Ryan only for teaching the limitations recited in claims 12-19. Ryan teaches a “copy once” mechanism that allows no copy or only a single recording of digital content. In order to enable recording of no copy or only a single copy of video content, frame markers are inserted into the video signal. The image content that is visible to a viewer of an authorized recorded version of the original digital content is unaltered compared with the original digital content. In sum, Ryan does not teach or suggest the limitations of using three-dimensional processing is used to remove, add, or modify an item in the source digital image content. Ryan also fails to teach or suggest utilizing the tag to access an action table and find the tagged

commands to the rendering unit. Thus, Ryan fails to cure the deficiencies of Schumann and Fukushima set forth above.

As the foregoing illustrates, the combination of Schumann, Fukushima and Ryan fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of amended claims 1 and 7. Therefore, amended claims 1 and 7, and the claims dependent thereon, are in condition for allowance.

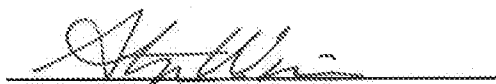
New Claims

New claims 37 and 39 each recite the limitations of tagged commands that are associated with texture and include blending commands for altering the source digital image content. These limitations are supported by at least paragraphs [0039] and [0040] of the application, as originally filed. New claims 38 and 40 each recite the limitations that the tag is determined as a dot product of multiple vertices in a row. These limitations are supported by at least paragraph [0045] of the application, as originally filed. None of the cited references teaches or suggests these limitations. Therefore, these new claims are in condition for allowance independent of their dependency on the allowable independent claims.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephanie Winner
Registration No. 52,371
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Agent for Applicant(s)